

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4812 "HONOR FLIGHT ACT"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee and the former ranking member and chair of the Subcommittee on Transportation Security, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4812, the Honor Flight Act of 2014.

H.R. 4812 authorizes the collaboration between the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the Honor Flight Network, as well as other non-profit organizations that transport veterans to visit memorials, to ensure continued expedited and dignified passenger screening for veterans travelling to Washington, D.C. to visit memorials and other tributes to their bravery, heroism, and sacrifice in the cause of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, thousands of veterans across the country fought to protect the freedoms we take for granted and to keep our nation safe. They are deserving of our gratitude for the valor and courage they displayed in risking their lives to keep us free and to liberate captive peoples in other lands.

They are veterans of World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Gulf Wars—Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.

With each passing day, the number of World War II and Korea veterans declines by the hundreds. For many of these heroes, one of their last wishes is to visit the national war memorials in Washington, D.C.

Honoring and facilitating that request is the least we can do for those who did so much for us.

TSA works with the Honor Flight Network in expediting the screening process for veterans visiting the national war memorials, saving the veterans' time and showing them their due respect and appreciation.

The Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to transporting veterans on charter flights operated by commercial airlines to Washington, D.C. to visit memorials built in honor of their service.

Currently, the Honor Flight Network gives priority to WWII veterans and those from any war who have been diagnosed with a terminal illness.

The Honor Flight Network plans to expand the program in the future to include the veterans who served during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, followed by veterans of the wars in the Persian Gulf.

Mr. Speaker, my home state of Texas has the second largest number of veterans of any state in the nation, with just over 1.6 million veterans. My home city of Houston is proud to be the residence of more than 300,000 veterans.

I strongly support the bill before us because I strongly support the efforts of TSA and the Honor Flight Network in making real the dreams, and in many cases the last wishes, of thousands of veterans who wish to visit the memorials dedicated by the nation in their honor.

I urge all members to join me in supporting H.R. 4812 so that our veterans continue to receive the security accommodations they need

and deserve as they travel to Washington, D.C. to view the national memorials consecrated by their sacrifice in defense of our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I requested leave and was absent from the House on June 25 and June 26 due to a death in the family, and missed several rollcall votes during that time.

Had I been present on Wednesday, June 25, I would have voted as follows: Roll 355 on the Previous Question: "yea;" roll 356 on the Adoption of the Rule: "yea;" Roll 357 on the Adoption of the DeFazio Amendment to H.R. 6: "nay;" roll 358 on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 6: "nay;" roll 359 on the Passage of H.R. 6, the Domestic Prosperity and Global Freedom Act: "yea."

Had I been present on Thursday, June 26, I would have voted as follows: Roll 360 on the Adoption of the Wittman Amendment to H.R. 4899: "yea;" roll 361 on the Adoption of the Lowenthal Amendment to H.R. 4899: "nay;" roll 362 on the Adoption of the Capps Amendment to H.R. 4899: "nay;" roll 363 on the Adoption of the Deutch Amendment to H.R. 4899: "nay;" roll 364 on the Adoption of the Blumenauer Amendment to H.R. 4899: "nay;" roll 365 on the Adoption of the Bishop of Utah Amendment to H.R. 4899: "yea;" roll 366 on the Adoption of the DeFazio Amendment to H.R. 4899: "nay;" roll 367 on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 4899: "Nay;" roll 368 on the Passage of H.R. 4899, the Lowering Gasoline Prices to Fuel an America That Works Act of 2014: "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I write to inform you that I was unable to be on the House floor for votes on June 25, 2014 related to H.R. 6, the Domestic Prosperity and Global Freedom Act (rollcall No. 359). Had I been there, I would have voted in support of the legislation.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL "MR. PAUL" S. AMOS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, July 5 funeral services were held for Paul "Mr. Paul" S. Amos. Mr. Amos, 88, was remembered as a man of "rock-solid integrity" and was the last surviving founder of Columbus-based Aflac Insurance. As a representative of South Carolina's Second District, I especially appreciate Aflac's extraor-

dinary success and expansion acquiring Continental American Insurance Company led by CFO Chris Goodall in Columbia generating hundreds of jobs.

Funeral services were held at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Columbus, Georgia, with interment following the service in Parkhill Cemetery.

His obituary in The Ledger-Enquirer of Columbus, Georgia, contained this tribute:

Paul S. Amos, who with his two brothers founded Aflac Incorporated nearly six decades ago, passed away late Wednesday night, July 2, 2014, after a lengthy illness. He was 88 years old. Funeral services will be held at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Columbus, GA, at 3:00 PM on Saturday, July 5, 2014. It will be preceded by public visitation beginning at 2:00 PM at the St. Luke United Methodist Church Ministry Center. There will be a private burial service following the funeral.

Paul S. Amos was born April 23, 1926 in Enterprise, Ala. the son of the late John Shelby and Helen Mullins Amos. Mr. Amos was raised in Enterprise, Ala. and Milton, Fla. He and his wife, the former Jean Roberts, met in church when she was just 17 years old and celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in October of last year. The couple's only child, Daniel P. Amos, is Aflac's current chairman and CEO. The Amos brothers founded Aflac in 1955 and, in its first year of business, the company had 6,426 policyholders and \$388,000 in assets. Today, it is a Fortune 500 company with more than \$121 billion in assets and insures more than 50 million people worldwide. Aflac is the leading provider of supplemental insurance products and pays cash directly to policyholders to use as needed. During his long tenure at Aflac, Mr. Amos held numerous positions, both at corporate headquarters and as a hands-on member of the sales force. He served as state sales manager for Alabama/West Florida, first vice president/director of marketing, president, vice chairman and chairman. Although he retired in 2001, he remained a familiar figure at Aflac and loved to be among the employees and sales team members who continued the company's legacy. Amos, who continued to make daily visits to Aflac's offices in Columbus, Ga., and served as Chairman Emeritus, was beloved by the insurer's more than 8,000 employees and 185,000 agents worldwide. He was known affectionately throughout the company as "Mr. Paul."

In addition to helping build the world's largest supplemental insurance company, Amos established a quiet history of philanthropy and community service. Through anonymous donations and the endowment of educational funds and scholarship programs, he and Jean touched thousands of lives with major financial commitments. Their efforts included the Paul and Jean Amos Educational Fund at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky.; the Paul S. Amos Family Foundation at Columbus State University in Columbus, Ga.; the Scholarship Fund at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky.; and many unheralded contributions to those in need. Amos received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Cumberland College in May 2001. Columbus State University honored him with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree in May 2002. In 2004, Amos received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Asbury Theological Seminary.

Amos is survived by his wife, Jean; their son Daniel P. Amos and his wife Kathelen; two grandchildren, Lauren Amos and her husband Tyler Clayton, and Paul S. Amos II and his wife, Courtney; and four great-grandchildren, Dan Amos, Mansell Amos, Knox Amos and Eden Amos.